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Museum of Comparative Zoology

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The Newport

Natural History Society,

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CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

1883.

NEWPORT, R. I.:
PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY BY DAVIS & PITMAN,
AUGUST, 1883.

DOCUMENT I.

Officers of the Society for 1883.

President.

PROF. RAPHAEL PUMPELLY.

Vice-Presidents.

Prof. Alexander Agassiz,
James Gordon Bennett, Esq.,
Hon. Francis Brinley,
Col. George H. Elliot, U. S. Army,
Dr. Samuel W. Francis,
James R. Keene, Esq.,
Gen. Robert B. Potter,
Hon. Samuel Powel,
Prof. Fairman Rogers,
Dr. Horatio R. Storer,
Hon. Charles C. Van Zandt,
Col. George E. Waring, Jr., C. E.

Trustees.

Prof. Raphael Pumpelly,
Hon. Lucius D. Davis,
Andrew B. Almon, Esq.

Corresponding Secretary.

George C. Mason, Esq.

Recording Secretary.

Capt. J. A. Judson, C. E.

Librarian.

Lieut. William McCarty Little, U. S. Navy.

Treasurer.

Dr. William C. Rives, Jr.

Curator.

Dr. J. J. Mason.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.—Name.

This Society shall be styled The Newport Natural History Society.

Article II.—Object.

Its object shall be to promote the study of natural science among the residents and visitors of Newport and vicinity, to investigate and make known the geology, zoology and botany of the neighboring lands and waters, to conserve such scientific specimens and books as may be entrusted to its care or donated to it, and to secure the establishment of an Aquarium and a Zoological Garden under its auspices for purposes of public instruction and entertainment.

Article III.—Membership.

The only qualification for membership shall be an interest in any of the objects named in Article II. Any such person, upon a written recommendation signed by two members of the Society and presented at any regular meeting, may, by the vote of a majority of those present at that meeting, by the payment of the first annual fee and by signing the By-Laws, become a member of the Society. Honorary members, who shall have all the privileges of the Society except that of voting, may be elected on the recommendation of the Council.

Article IV.—Loss of Vote, etc.

No member who shall be six months in arrears in the payment of his or her annual fee shall be entitled to vote or hold office or take part in the discussions of the Society.

Article V.—Officers.

The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, twelve Vice Presidents, three Trustees, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, a Curator, a Librarian, besides

such other officers as the By-Laws may hereafter provide for, for the care of an Aquarium and a Zoological Garden. These officers shall be chosen annually on the first Thursday in May.

Article VI.—Tenure of Office.

No officer shall be re-eligible to the same office for more than three successive years except the trustees.

Article VII.—Election of Officers.

The election of officers shall be by ballot. All members of the Society who only reside in Newport a portion of the year shall be entitled to vote for officers through the mail. A plurality of the votes cast and received shall insure election.

Article VIII.—Council.

All the officers of the Society, together with all its ex-Presidents, shall constitute a Board of Management or Council.

Article IX.—By-Laws.

By-Laws for the more particular regulation of the Society may from time to time be made.

Article X.—Alteration of Constitution.

This Constitution may be altered or amended in any of the preceding articles by a vote to that effect of three-fourths of the members voting at any regular meeting of the Society, providing, however, that every voting member of the Society shall have been notified by mail of the proposed alteration at least three weeks before such meeting, and that all voting members, not constant residents of Newport, be allowed to vote on the question of such alteration or amendment through the mail. But the article which immediately follows this shall be unalterable.

Article XI.—Dissolution.

The consent of every voting member of the Society shall be necessary to its dissolution.

In case of a dissolution the property of the Society shall not be distributed among the members, but donors may claim and receive such donations as they have made to the Museum, and the remainder shall be given to some public institution on such conditions as may be agreed on.

BY-LAWS.

SECTION I.—OF OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES.

ARTICLE I. The President shall preside at the meetings of the Society and of the Council, shall preserve order, regulate debates, conduct all business proceedings, appoint all committees authorized by the Society unless otherwise specially ordered, shall fill by appointment any office which may become vacant until the annual election shall be had, shall appoint Heads of Sections, shall, on the first Thursday in May, make a report to the Society as to its general condition and needs, and shall order a call for a special meeting when requested so to do by five members of the Society.

ART. II. The Vice-Presidents shall, in their alphabetical order, perform the duties of the President in his absence.

ART. III. The Corresponding Secretary shall be charged with all the correspondence of the Society and Council, shall notify members and officers of their election, shall, three weeks before the annual meeting, mail blank ballots with return envelopes to all voting members, not constant residents of Newport, and shall deliver all such return letters unopened to the Recording Secretary at the time of the election of officers. He shall proceed in like manner when any change is proposed in the Constitution or the By-Laws, notifying every such member of the change proposed. He shall give two consecutive days' notice of each regular meeting through the daily paper and also of each special meeting upon the President's order.

ART. IV. The Recording Secretary shall take and preserve correct minutes of the proceedings of the Society and Council in books to be kept for that purpose, shall have charge of all records belonging to the Society, shall obtain the signature of members to the By-Laws and keep a corrected list of their names and addresses.

Art. V. The Treasurer shall have charge of all moneys belonging to the Society, shall collect the annual fees, give the Recording Secretary the names of all such members as are six months in arrears, shall receive all subscriptions made in behalf of the Society and any incomes, shall pay all debts against the Society which shall have been audited by the Council or ordered paid by the Society. He shall, at the annual meeting in May, read a report of receipts and expenditures and of the condition of the finances previously audited by the Council. His books shall be open to the inspection of any member at all regular meetings.

Art. VI. The Curator shall be a person of acknowledged scientific attainments. Under the direction of the Council he shall have charge of the Museum, and shall be responsible for the scientific arrangement of the collections. He shall acknowledge all donations and deposits, and make careful record of the same with date and name of donor or depositor, and shall report such donations and deposits at the next regular meeting of the Society. He shall also make a report at the annual meeting upon the state and character of the collections.

Art. VII. The Librarian shall have charge of manuscripts and books donated to or deposited with the Society, shall acknowledge and catalogue the same, and report them at the next regular meeting as well as make an annual report at the annual meeting upon the growth of the Library.

Art. VIII. The Council shall meet at least once a month to devise and deliberate upon measures for promoting the welfare of the Society and furthering its several objects, especially that of establishing an Aquarium and a Zoological Garden under its auspices. It shall audit all accounts against the Society as well as the Treasurer's annual report.

Art. IX. The Trustees shall be the legal custodians of the property of the Society, and shall be subject in all respects to the authority of the Council.

Art. X. All the officers of the Society shall serve without remuneration.

Section II.—Of Annual Fees and Liabilities of Members.

Art. I. The annual fee of each member shall not exceed $3.00,

nor shall membership in the Society involve any other pecuniary liability.

Art. II. The President and Treasurer shall be empowered to exempt (*sub silentio*) a member from his or her annual fee when from peculiar circumstances they may deem it for the interest of the Society so to do.

Section III.—Of the Aquarium and Zoological Garden.

The By-Laws under this Section shall be framed and submitted to the Society by the Council as soon as these objects are attained.

Section IV.—Of the Library.

Art. I. This shall be subject to such rules as the Librarian may make with the approval of the Council.

Section V.—Of the Museum.

Art. I. Only such objects shall be admitted to the museum as have a scientific value. Its design shall be first, to illustrate the local geology, fauna and flora, second, to furnish a safe repository for such other specimens of scientific interest as may be entrusted to the care of, or donated to the Society.

Art. II. The Museum shall be subject to such other rules as the Curator may make with the approval of the Council.

Section VI.—Of Lectures and Papers.

Art. I. Original papers and lectures of a scientific character shall be read and delivered before the Society at the invitation or with the approval of the President. The reading of every such paper or lecture shall be followed by a discussion open to every voting member of the Society.

Section VII.—Of Meetings.

Art. I. The regular meetings of the Society shall take place on the first Thursday of each month. Special meetings at the call of the President, or when he shall be requested to call one by five members. The annual meeting shall be held on the first Thursday in May.

Art. II. During the summer months there shall be held, when practicable, one or more field meetings under the direction

of the Council, which shall be so conducted as to furnish both instruction and entertainment to the members of the Society.

Art. III. All members shall have the privilege of introducing friends, not exceeding three in number, to any of the regular meetings of the Society.

Section VIII.—Of Business.

Art. I. Eight members shall form a quorum for business at a Society meeting, and seven a quorum at a meeting of Council.

Art. II. Nothing shall be communicated to or discussed before the Society which is not germane to the objects for which the same was formed.

Art. III. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting except that which is specified in the call.

Art. IV. The Order of Business at the regular meetings shall be as follows:

1. Reading the minutes.
2. Approval or correction of the same.
3. Announcement of additions to the Museum by the Curator.
4. Announcement of additions to the Library by the Librarian.
5. Lecture or extended paper.
6. Discussion of the same.
7. Brief scientific communications.
8. Proposition of names for membership by the Recording Secretary.
9. Vote thereon.
10. Any other business.
11. Adjournment.

At the annual meeting the order shall be as follows:

1. Reading of the minutes.
2. Approval or correction of the same.
3. President's Report.
4. Treasurer's Report.
5. Curator's Report.
6. Librarian's Report.
7. Reports of Heads of Sections.
8. Election of new officers.
9. Proposition of names for membership.
10. Vote thereon.
11. Any other business.
12. Adjournment.

Section IX.—Of Sections.

Art. I. Sections shall be formed for the private study of the local natural history in the following departments:

A. Geology, Paleontology and Lithology.
B. Terrestrial Botany.
C. Marine Botany.
D. Terrestrial Zoology.
E. Marine Zoology.

Art. II. These Sections shall be under the direction of persons selected by the President for their attainments and interest in the respective sciences.

Art. III. At the Annual Meeting the Heads of Sections shall read written reports to the Society giving the history and progress of each Section during the year.

Section X.—Of Expenditures and Indebtedness.

Art. I. The Society shall never incur any pecuniary obligation exceeding the amount in the treasury.

Art. II. No money shall be expended except by authority of the Council.

Section XI.—Of Alteration of By-Laws.

Art. I. The By-Laws of the Society may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the members voting at any regular meeting provided that two weeks' notice shall have been given to every voting member of the proposed change, and blank ballots shall have been mailed to every voting member, not a constant resident of Newport, at least two weeks before the vote is taken on such alteration or amendment.

CHARTER.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, ETC.

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

MAY SESSION, A. D., 1883.

AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE THE NEWPORT NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Francis Brinley, Samuel W. Francis, Horatio R. Storer, Lucius D. Davis, T. Nelson Dale, Charles L. Fisher, Clara E. Ives, Russell Forsyth, J. Neilson Howard, J. M. K. Southwick, J. A. Judson, Edgar F. Clark, W. McCarty Little, Frank G. Harris, Guy Waring, David King, Julia Ward Howe, W. D. McKim, Charles Davis, Augusta A. V. Hunter, Francis H. Rankin, Howard Smith, E. B. Harrington, Reed Werden, S. C. Powell, William C. Rives, Jr., George A. Littlefield, Edward H. Brinley, Stephen H. Sears, George E. Waring, Jr., G. J. Magill, George C. Mason, Samuel R. Honey, Raphael Pumpelly, A. B. Almon, John Rogers, Amon Parmenter, George C. Mason, Jr., J. Snowdon Howland, J. P. Curley, C. F. Barker, William Gilpin, Malcolm Storer, Mrs. M. H. Sanford, Anna B. Bigelow, Katharine B. Judson, John J. Carry, Henry C. Stevens, J. P. Cotton, Charles E. Hammett, Jr., Thomas Dunn, Robert S. Franklin, F. A. Gooch, E. S. Whitfield, B. T. Putnam, Richard Bliss, Frank E. Thompson and their

associates, successors and assigns are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic under the name and style of "THE NEWPORT NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY," to be located in the city of Newport, Rhode Island, for the purpose of establishing a Museum of Natural History, Zoological Garden and Aquarium for the benefit of scientific investigation and instruction of the people, with power to hold real and personal estate in an amount not exceeding one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with all the rights and privileges and be subjected to all the duties and liabilities provided by Chapter 152 of the Public Statutes of Rhode Island, and of the several acts in addition thereto and in amendment thereof.

SEC. 2. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, ETC.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
Providence, R. I., June 20th, 1883.

I certify the foregoing to be a true copy of An Act passed by the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island, etc., June 1st, A. D., 1883.

L. S.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the State aforesaid, this twentieth day of June, A. D., 1883.

JOSHUA M. ADDEMAN,
Secretary of State.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

Agassiz, Prof. Alexander
Almon, Andrew B.
Barker, Dr. C. F.
Bennett, James Gordon
Bigelow, Anna B.
Bliss, Richard
Brinley, Dr. Edward H.
Brinley, Hon. Francis
Calvert, Hon. G. H.
Carry, John J.
Clark, Rev. Edgar F.
Coggeshall, Robert D.
Cotton, J. P.
Curley, Dr. J. P.
Dale, T. Nelson
Davis, Dr. Charles
Davis, Lucius D.
Dunn, Thomas
Elliot, Col. G. H., U. S. A.,
Fisher, Dr. Charles L.
Ford, T. G.
Forsyth, Russell
Francis, Dr. Samuel W.
Franklin, Hon. Robert S.
Gilpin, William
Gooch, Dr. F. A.
Hammett, Charles E., Jr.
Harrington, E. B.
Harris, Frank G.
Honey, Col. Samuel R.
Howard, J. Neilson
Howe, Julia Ward
Howland, J. Snowdon
Hunter, Augusta A. V.
Ives, Clara E.
Judson, Capt. J. A.
Judson, Katharine B.
Keene, James R.
King, David
King, William Dehon
Little, Lt. Wm. McCarty, U.S.N.,
Littlefield, George A.
McKim, Dr. W. D.
Magill, Rev. George J.
Mason, George C.
Mason, George C., Jr.,
Norman, George H.
Parmenter, Amon
Pitman, Mrs. T. T.
Potter, Gen. Robert B.
Powel, Hon. Samuel
Powell, Dr. S. C.
Pumpelly, Prof. Raphael
Putnam, B. T.
Rankin, Dr. Francis H.
Rives, Dr. William C., Jr.
Rogers, John
Rogers, Prof. Fairman
Sanford, Mrs. M. H.
Sears, Dr. Stephen H.
Smith, Howard
Southwick, J. M. K.
Stevens, Henry C.
Storer, Dr. Horatio R.
Storer, Malcolm
Thompson, Prof. Frank E.
Van Zandt, Hon. Charles C.
Waring, Col. George E., Jr.
Waring, Guy
Werden, Admiral Reed, U.S.N.,
Whitfield, E. S.

Total to August 2d, 1883, — 71.

HONORARY MEMBER.

Prof. Spencer F. Baird, LL. D., Washington, D. C.

DONATIONS AND LOANS.

Books, pamphlets, manuscripts or specimens, having a scientific interest, connected with any of the departments of natural history, will be gratefully received, acknowledged and catalogued if sent to

DR. J. J. MASON, CURATOR, or
LT. WM. McCARTY LITTLE, LIBRARIAN,
NEWPORT, R. I.

MEMBERSHIP.

Persons interested in the objects of this Society are invited to register their names as applicants for membership in a book kept for that purpose at the office of the Recording Secretary,

CAPT. J. A. JUDSON,
No. 22 Bellevue Avenue.